



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

VOLUME L

ISSUE 14

OCTOBER 17, 2011

Music and Museum to Highlight ABAC Exhibit at Expo

From the soulful sounds of a mandolin to the terrific taste of teacakes, ABAC will showcase all aspects of its 516-acre campus at the Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition at Spence Field near Moultrie Tuesday-Thursday.

"We always look forward to the Expo because we get to see a lot of prospective students as well as alumni," Interim Director of Public Relations Ashley Williamson said. "For the second year in a row, we will be sharing information about the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village on the ABAC stage as well as hearing from our student performers."

Williamson said student performing groups will be spotlighted each day at the ABAC exhibit including Amanda Lynn and the Sand Mountain Boys bluegrass band on Oct. 18, the ABAC Jazz Choir on Oct. 19, and the Thundering Herd Pep Band on Oct. 20.

ABAC took over the operation of the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village in Tifton on July 1, 2010, and now the Museum provides educational opportunities as a part of the ABAC campus.

"Museum personnel will be a part of the ABAC exhibit at the Expo every day," Williamson said. "We sold out of teacakes last year, so we're making up extra batches this year. We will also have Museum interpreters talking about everything from sheep-shearing to syrup-making."

The ABAC Ambassadors will emcee the daily shows on the ABAC stage and will also sell ABAC souvenir t-shirts, sweat shirts, caps and other merchandise. They will also spend each day recruiting future ABAC students from the thousands of high schoolers who visit the Expo.

"No one sells ABAC like our very own students," Williamson said. "The Ambassadors are excited about this opportunity to share their experiences with ABAC students of the future."

Admissions representatives and faculty members will also be on hand each



day to answer questions about the new bachelor's degree programs at the college. ABAC will also host the Expo Scavenger Hunt for middle school and

high school students. The students follow clues to find answers to questions posted on the Expo web site at www.sunbeltexpo.com/resources.html#scavenger. Prizes will be awarded after the Expo.

The Expo began as a series of small farm equipment shows on the ABAC campus in the 1960s. It moved to Spence Field in 1978.

The Expo is open 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Oct. 18-19 and 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Oct. 20. The agricultural-based trade show features 1,200 exhibitors showcasing the latest in farming technology. Admission is \$10 per person per day. Children 12-and-under are admitted free with their parents.

Critter Saturday at Museum of Agriculture This Weekend

Critter Saturday will take place Saturday at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village, operated by ABAC as part of the month-long Fall Frolics. Critter Saturday will feature the Parks at Chehaw interactive native wildlife exhibit.

The interactive native wildlife exhibit includes demonstrations and hands-on activities with animals from the Parks at Chehaw. Participants can also visit ABAC's mobile wildlife display, the petting zoo, take a pony ride, or receive free face painting courtesy of the Turner County 4-H. The Tifton Animal Shelter will also be on hand for the dog-casa raffle and dog safety demonstrations.

A variety of food will be for sale, including the traditional fare of boiled peanuts, chicken salad sandwiches, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, barbeque chicken sandwiches, and pimento cheese sandwiches.

Other events in the Fall Frolics lineup include Trick or Treat in the Village on Oct. 29. The Village becomes haunted from 7-10 p.m. on Oct. 28-29 with spooky tours and haunted train rides.

Each Fall Frolics Saturday will feature a Family Farm Ball Activity.

The pumpkin patch and corn maze will also be open to the general public every Saturday in October from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. For \$5, children and adults may visit the Pumpkin Patch, navigate their way through the Georgia-shaped Corn Maze, explore the fall play-scape and ride the steam train. Pumpkins are available at various prices. To tour the village, regular admission is required.

During the week, field trips will be available through the Museum to the



Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze. Interested persons can contact Tonia Carpenter to schedule a class visit at (229) 391-5205 or at tcarpenter@abac.edu. Admission to the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village on Tuesday-Friday is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors (age 55 and over), \$4 for children 5-16 years of age, and free for children four and under. Saturday admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (age 55 and over), \$5 for children 5-16 years of age, and free for children four and under. During the month of October, regular admission includes the Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze.

For more information on these and other upcoming events, interested persons can contact the Museum at (229) 391-5200 or visit the Museum's website at www.abac.edu/museum.

ABAC Fall Carnival at Museum Oct. 27

A Fall Carnival will take place on Oct. 27 at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village, operated by ABAC beginning at 6 p.m. This event is open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

The carnival will feature a multitude of events including a haunted train ride and house, football toss, pumpkin golf, and a corn maze that will be kid-



friendly until 8 p.m. After 8 p.m., the maze will take on an eerie appearance as it becomes haunted. Each event has a small fee to take part. All the

activities will be sponsored by ABAC clubs and organizations.

The carnival will be located at the Welcome Center and Country Store at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at 1392 Whiddon Mill Road. Tickets for the activities can be purchased the night of the event.

For more information about the Fall Carnival, contact Kris Liebegott at (229) 391-5152 or via e-mail at kriegott@abac.edu.

Writers' Harvest Oct. 27 Features Novelist, Poet

A nominee for Georgia Author of the Year and Pushcart Prize-nominated poet will be featured at the annual Writers' Harvest on Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village, operated by ABAC.

The price of admission is one nonperishable food item or canned good. All donations go to support Brother Charlie's Rescue Mission. This event is sponsored by ABAC's literary magazine, "Pegasus".

Dr. Jeff Newberry, the "Pegasus" advisor, said this year's featured readers are novelist Morris Smith and poet Andy Frazee.

Smith, who lives in Valdosta, studied at Valdosta State University and Tulane University and has worked as a teacher and social worker. In 1998 she was nominated as Georgia Author of the Year for a short story sequence, "Spencer Road". In 2005 another story collection, "Zambian Text", was published by Mercer University Press.

Frazee is author of "The Body, the Rooms" (2011) and "That the World Should Never Again be Destroyed by

Flood" (2010). His Pushcart Prize-nominated poetry has appeared in a variety of journals. He is also known for his criticisms and reviews in publications including "Verse" and "The Quarterly Conversation". The son, grandson and great-grandson of farmers, Frazee grew up in rural Central Illinois. A graduate of the University of Illinois and the University of Georgia, he currently holds a Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellowship at Georgia Tech.

"Pegasus" staff members will collect canned goods and non-perishable items through the date of the Writer's Harvest. Donations can also be dropped off at the School of Liberal Arts office in King Hall, Newberry's office in Conger 309, or at the "Pegasus" office at the Branch Student Center, Room 313. Those who cannot make it over to one of these drop locations can call Newberry's office at 391-4972 and someone will come to the location.

For more information on the Writers' Harvest, interested persons can contact Newberry via e-mail at jnewberry@abac.edu.



Open Enrollment Oct. 24 – Nov. 17

ABAC Human Resources encourage you to attend one of the eight Employee Benefit Communication meetings that will be offered on Oct. 24 at 10 a.m., Noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. and again on Oct. 25 at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon and 2 p.m. in the Student Center Courtroom on the third floor of the Branch Student Center. Please go to the following link to register for the session that best fits your schedule <http://www.abac.edu/hr/openenrollment>.

ABAC Opens Campus for High School Students on Stallion Day November 12

High school students will have an opportunity to experience what college life has to offer at the ABAC Fall Stallion Day on Nov. 12. Registration begins at 8 a.m. in the Donaldson Dining Hall.

"Stallion Day provides an exciting opportunity for both students and parents in their search for a college," said Brooke Jernigan, enrollment management counselor in the Office of Admissions. "Interactive classes, the Stallion Marketplace, and Conversation Corners are just a few things that set us apart from other open campus days."

Visitors can take guided tours of the campus from 8 – 9 a.m. given by the ABAC Ambassadors before perusing the academic and club exhibits at the Stallion Marketplace in Gressette Gym from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. The Stallion Marketplace offers a glimpse at over 50 programs of study including on-campus bachelor's degrees in Business and Economic Development, Arts and Culture, Social and Community Affairs,

Writing and Communication, Diversified Agriculture, Turfgrass and Golf Course Management, Early Childhood Education, Forestry, Wildlife Management, Accounting, Management, and Biology.

Conversation Corners will take place from 10:45 – 11:50 a.m. in the Health Sciences Building. This activity allows students to choose two detailed information sessions focusing on areas such as music, housing, student involvement, and the Honors Program. Parents are also welcome to attend.

A free lunch for the visiting students in the Donaldson Dining Hall will be provided from noon – 1 p.m. Meals are available for parents at a cost of \$6 per person. During the noon hour, high school seniors will have a chance to win waivers for housing, a one-semester meal plan worth over \$1,000 and a \$500 tuition grant.

Students who have submitted official transcripts and official SAT/ACT scores

might also receive on-the-spot admission to the college at the event.

From 1 – 1:45 p.m., parents will remain in the dining hall for an information session while students take part in interactive classes from the six schools of study at ABAC.

Students and parents will reunite from 2 – 3:30 p.m. to take advantage of sessions on financial aid and housing and to tour the ABAC Lakeside freshman housing complex.

"We hope that when students leave Stallion Day, they will be certain that ABAC is their state college of choice," said Jernigan.

Prospective students should sign up ahead of time for Stallion Day event at www.abac.edu/stalliondays or call (229) 391-5004. If there are any questions regarding Stallion Day, prospective students can contact the admissions office via e-mail at abacinfo@abac.edu.

Visit the Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture



The pumpkin patch and corn maze will be open to the general public every Saturday in October from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. For \$5, children and adults may visit the Pumpkin Patch, navigate their way through the Georgia-shaped Corn Maze, explore the fall play-scape and ride the steam train. Pumpkins are available at various prices. To tour the village, regular admission is required. During the week, field trips will be available through the Museum to the Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze. Interested persons can contact Tonia Carpenter to schedule a class visit at (229) 391-5205 or at tcarpenter@abac.edu.

Alumni Award Nominations Due December 1

Nominations are now being accepted for awards to be presented by the ABAC Alumni Association at the Celebrate ABAC alumni weekend on March 3, 2012 at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. Nominations are due by Dec. 1, 2011.

Awards are based on professional achievement, community service, and service to the college. Anyone who has attended ABAC for one full year and has 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of credit is eligible for nomination.

Nomination forms may be obtained by logging onto www.abac.edu/alumni and clicking on the "Alumni Awards" link. Completed nominations may be mailed to the ABAC Alumni Office,



ABAC 13, 2802 Moore Highway, Tifton, GA 31793-2601, or returned as an e-mail attachment to the Alumni Association at alumni@abac.edu no later than Dec. 1.

Nominations should provide specific details about the person being nominated. Nominations may be made by alumni, friends, family members, or ABAC faculty and staff.

For more information about the nomination process, contact the Alumni Office at (229) 391-4900 or via e-mail at alumni@abac.edu.

ABAC Family

Tarrah Mirus, Kaitlin Stannard, Donna Webb, and Amanda Wulle attended the Georgia Association of Collegiate Registrar and Admissions Officers (GACRAO) in Young Harris, GA. Webb was elected to serve on the 2011 – 12 Executive Committee.

The FOCUS is a weekly electronic publication produced by the ABAC Public Relations Office.

Please submit any information by **Thursday at noon** to Ashley Williamson at awilliamson@abac.edu for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

ABAC Birthdays

17 Polly Huff
18 Michelle Barton
21 Nancy Anthony
21 John Clemens
21 Ferol Cosper

21 Michelle Wheeler
22 Jean Oliver-Burks
22 Reba Selph
23 Beverly Wesley



Visit the New Exhibits at the Museum

"Jimmy Carter: Georgia's Native Son" and "Mules & Presidents: The Folk Pottery of Huey and Anne Wheeler" is running simultaneously at the museum. The pottery exhibit will remain open until Jan. 7, 2012, and the Carter exhibit will be at the Museum until April, 2012. Exhibit hours are from 9-4:30 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday.

Pink Yogurt Lid Collection

Yoplait tops its yogurt containers with pink lids in support of Breast Cancer Research. Used Yoplait lids are collected and turned in for donations to the Susan G. Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer Research. A Pink Lid collection box for Yoplait pink lids has been placed on the shelf across from the ABAC Mail Center window. Please rinse your lids before putting them in the box. You may also send lids in campus mail to Bam Pirkle.